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James Clark
118 Ashland Ave.
River Forest, IL
November 10, 1998

President's Council on Food Safety
Chicago Marriott Schaumburg
Schaumburg, IL.

Handwritten signature and circled number 37.

My name is James Clark. I am from Illinois and am nine years old. I have food and latex allergies. Last summer I took one bite of a salad at a restaurant and I started to have an anaphylatic reaction. My throat started to close and I could not breathe well. We discovered the salad had been made using latex gloves.

It is very hard to know where latex is or isn't. Food that has been touched by latex looks the same as food that has not been touched by latex.

I need your help in obtaining access to safe food. When my parents ask managers at restaurants to use only nonlatex gloves, we have been told the restaurants must by law use latex gloves. We have also been told that latex gloves are safe to use. I know this isn't true, but most people handling food in America do not know that latex gloves are dangerous and that food should not be touched by latex gloves.

I need the FDA and the USDA to help me live. Please help those of us with this disease and help stop others from getting this disease by banning disposable latex gloves in the preparation and handling of food. Thank you.